



YPFDJ-NY



May 7, 2009

In Defense of Eritrean Youth

(This is a response to the article “*ERITREA: YPFDJ equivalent to Hitler Youth*”)

Reckless cyber attacks on the youth will, undoubtedly, end your future in Eritrean politics before it even starts. And deplorable acts, as such, will not win over any Eritrean. If this character wants the attention of the Eritrean youth then I suggest he, not insult them but, rather challenge them to a debate. On the other hand, it is crystal clear what the true motivation and purpose of the defamatory article is.

In line with efforts to try to tarnish the image of Eritrea and its Government, this character deems it necessary to, also, attempt to ruin any/everything that, in one way or the other, supports the aforementioned. I am not, however, going to get into the past, miserably failed, ploys of this character. I will, nonetheless, briefly respond to the slanderous piece written on some questionable website.

YPFDJ is moving forward at the same pace that other organizations are moving in the opposite direction. According to this backward character, YPFDJ members are “*indoctrinated as the future and defenders of the land.*” I would argue with this cyber character on the need to instruct Eritrean Youth to be patriotic. It’s clear that it is this character, and not the Eritrean youth, that needs a course on patriotism. Despite what this disgruntled character would like to portray, YPFDJ members are not taught what to think. I don’t, ever, recall “*clamoring ‘long live PFDJ!’*” in any one of our monthly meetings. On the contrary, we do, indeed, have open political, social and cultural debates. These open discussions are only part of what we do in our monthly gatherings. We plan and, to this characters dismay, execute successful events.

Rather than appreciate the cohesiveness and unity of Eritreans the writer of this commentary and, along with the writers of similar defamatory articles – and in line with what an enemy of Eritrea would want to achieve – is striving to oppose, divide and, thus, weaken ‘Eritreanness.’ Needless to say, and thank God, it’s all in vain. Only this character, with his twisted mind, can ever correlate YPFDJ with Hitler Youth and, therefore, there is no need for us to prove to any entity our disparity from the latter.

Not that anti-Eritreans would care, but I would like to inform the creators of similar shameless commentaries that attack Eritreans, and the youth in particular, that YPFDJ was created to raise awareness, which the writer(s) are claiming that our members lack.

To the author(s) of the article: Your political career is almost dead, but it is not too late to let it die with dignity. I suggest you refrain from further demonizing our organization.

Bordoli Netsereab

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